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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| Applicant(s): | Richard Richley et al. | OK TO ENTER: /AS |
|-----------------|--|-------------------------------|
| Application No. | 10/518,423 | |
| Filed: | December 17, 2004 | Group Art Unit: 3774 |
| For: | DEVICES AND METHODS FOR MINIMALLY INVASIVE TREATMENT OF DEGENERATED SPINAL DISCS | ; } |
| Evaminar | Alvin I Stawart | Attorney Doctot No. TDVNE 205 |

RESPONSE UNDER RULE 116

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This communication is submitted in response to the Office Action dated April 19, 2010 on the above-identified application. Reconsideration of this application is requested.

The status of all claims is presented on page 2 of this document for ease of reference.

Remarks begin on page 3 of this document.